

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
SAJ-01 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CU-02 ERDA-05 OES-06
/093 W

-----122331Z 022047 /64

R 122000Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1094
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0155

EO11652 GDS
TAGS NATO PFOR UR DA
SUBJECT SOVIET DEMARCHE TO THE DANES ON WP DECLARATION AND CSCE

THERE FOLLOW SPEAKING NOTES ON A RECENT SOVIET
DEMARCHE IN COPENHAGEN CIRCULATED BY DANISH REP AT
JANUARY 11 POLADS MEETING. DANISH REP SAID HIS
AUTHORITIES WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING WHETHER SIMILAR
DEMARCHES HAVE BEEN MADE BY SOVIETS IN OTHER NATO COUNTRIES.

BEGIN TEXT:

DURING A RECENT TALK BETWEEN A REPRESENTATIVE FOR
THE DANISH PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT AND A
REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN COPENHAGEN
THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE ASKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
INSTRUCTIONS THAT THE FOLLOWING VIEWS SHOULD BE
PASSED ON TO THE PRIME MINISTER:

1. THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE
THOUGHT OF INTRODUCTION OF NEW WEAPON SYSTEMS,
WHOSE CONSEQUENCES NOBODY KNOW. THIS WAS DUE
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TO THE FACT THAT THE PERIOD 1971-75 HAD SEEN
AN ANNUAL INCREASE OF THE DEFENCE BUDGETS OF
THE WESTERN COUNTRIES, THUS IN THE U.S.A. AND
IN NORWAY AN INCREASE OF 4 PERCENT AND IN THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 8 PERCENT, ACCORDING
TO THE RUSSIAN ESTIMATES.

2. CONSEQUENTLY IT WAS VERY DISTURBING THAT COUNTRIES
LIKE SWEDEN AND AUSTRIA NOW WERE JOINING THE ARMS'
RACE, AND ALSO SOME COUNTRIES IN THE THIRD WORLD

LIKE ISRAEL AND IRAN.

3. THE RUSSIANS HAD NOTED SOME THREATENING STATEMENTS RECENTLY MADE BY A GERMAN GENERAL IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

4. IN PRINCIPLE DENMARK SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONCLUDING A TREATY FOR PROHIBITION OF FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ALSO BECAUSE SUCH A TREATY WOULD BE A MEANS OF GIVING THE SMALL COUNTRIES A BIGGER INFLUENCE ON THE SUPER POWERS. IN THE USA SUCH A TREATY WOULD ALSO CHECK THE INFLUENCE OF THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AS A PRESURE GROUP IN THE CONGRESS.

5. A FREEZING OF THE MILITARY BUDGETS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO OVERCOME THE ECONOMIC CRISES IN THE WEST, WHICH ALSO WAS A PROBLEM FOR THE EASTERN COUNTRIES DUE TO THE INCREASING MUTUAL ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST.

6. THE SOVIET UNION WANTS A GRADUAL REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY FORCES IN EUROPE. SPAIN'S MEMBERSHIP OF NATO WOULD HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT, NOT BECAUSE IT WAS CONSIDERED TO INCREASE NATO'S MILITARY CAPABILITY, BUT
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BECAUSE IT WOULD UPSET THE POLITICAL STRENGTH RELATIONS (IN FAVOUR OF THE WEST). NATO SHOULD NOT TRY TO ADMIT SPAIN, LIKE THE WARSAW PACT WOULD NOT PUT PRESSURE ON YUGOSLAVIA TO JOIN THIS PACT.

7. CONCERNING THE MEETING IN BELGRADE THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANY EXTENSION OF THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANOEUVRES TO INCLUDING MANOEUVRES WITH PARTICIPATION OF LESS THAN 25,000. IT WAS THE IMPRESSION THAT NATO'S EXERCISE ACTIVITIES INCREASED AND THEY FEARED THAT AN EXTENSION OF THE NOTIFICATIONS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE LEGITIMATION OF AN INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY. THERE WAS NO PURPOSE IN NOTIFYING AN INCREASED ACTIVITY. THE PURPOSE SHOULD BE TO REDUCE THE MILITARY ACTIVITY.

8. THE BELGRADE MEETING SHOULD BE USED FOR DISCUSSIONS OF COOPERATION PROJECTS LIKE TRANSPORT, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND POLLUTION, IN WHICH CONNECTION THE BALTIC WAS AN IMPORTANT AREA.END TEXT STRAUSS-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO00155
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770191/baaabbeb.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: fb9084de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Jul-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3680038
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040727
Subject: SUBJECT SOVIET DEMARCHE TO THE DANES ON WP DECLARATION AND CSCE
TAGS: NATO, PFOR, UR, DA
To: STATE COPENHAGEN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fb9084de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009